Texarkana Gazette

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Our World This Morning

INTERNATIONAL

Warplanes Hit Deep in Cambodia

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. warplanes are playing a wider role in the Indochina war, striking as deep as 100 miles inside Cambodia against new enemy troop and supply lines, the pentagon disclosed Monday.

These new raids—well beyond the 21.7-mile limit for U.S. ground troops—began about a week ago and are being carried out with the "careful and personal coordination" of Cambodian and South Vietnamese military officials, a Pentagon spokesman said.

The spokesman, Jerry W. Friedheim, said they have been on an almost daily basis depending on the weather.

Friedheim said the bombing runs were begun "in the last week" when it became clear the enemy had successfully re-established its supply lines further west of the sanctuary areas along the South Vietnamese border.

NATIONAL

Nixon Signs Voting Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon signed Monday the bill lowering the voting age to 18 and asked for a quick court test on its constitutionality.

The same bill extends for five years the 1965 Voting Rights Act under which nearly a million Southern Negroes have been registered.

The legislation is drawn so that if the courts should invalidate the section providing for the vote for 18-, 19- and 20-year olds, the remainder of the act would not be affected.

In case the voting age section is knocked out, Nixon asked Congress to go ahead with the process of submitting to the states a constitutional amendment to lower the voting age to 18.

The bill permits voting at age 18 in all elections—federal, state and local—beginning Jan. 1.

WEATHER

Chance of Showers

TEXARKANA WEATHER—Yesterday's high, 89; low, 71. Rainfall, .66, period ending 9 p.m.

ARK ARKANSAS—Fair and warm with slight chance of afternoon showers. High, 80's; low, mid-60's.

SE OKLAHOMA—Clear to partly cloudy. High, 80's; low, lower 70's.

NE TEXAS— Clear and mild with chance of showers. High, lower 90's; low, upper 60's.

NW LOUISIANA—Clear to partly cloudy and warm. High, upper 80's; low, lower 70's.

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HEW Approves Arkansas Plan

'This Is the One They Wanted,' Douglas Remarks

By LARRY POWELL
Staff Writer

The desegregation plan for the elementary school system in the Texarkana, Ark., School District has been officially approved by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW).

Notification of the acceptance of the plan came in a letter from HEW received Monday afternoon by School Supt. Ed Trice.

Lloyd R. Henderson, Education Branch Chief of the Office of Civil Rights, HEW, wrote Trice, "We have received your letter of May 26, 1970, which gives the details of the desegregation plan for the Texarkana School District No. 7, Ark. After reviewing the plan, we find it to be adequate to meet the requirements of Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964."

Henderson wrote, "Based on the submission and acceptance of this plan by this office, your district continues to be eligible to apply for and receive all classes of federal assistance for which it would otherwise be entitled.

School Board President Harrell Hickman commented before the board in a special called meeting Monday night, "We meant this plan to be just adequate. It is just enough to keep us in compliance with the rulings and allow us to attempt to carry out the job of providing an education for the citizens of this district."

The author of the plan, State Sen. Bob Douglas, said approval of the plan by HEW "points out the fact that the primary interest (of HEW) is in integration and not in the school districts."

"I am happy," Douglas said, "that we could come up with a conclusion although I am not satisfied with it. I believe we can make it work and we can provide the type of education the patrons want."

Douglas, who had voiced confidence that the plan would be accepted several times since it had been submitted on May 26, said, "The other plans we submitted were educationally sound, but this was the one they wanted."

Trice, in Washington Friday for a Commissioner's Conference for the Chief State School Officers, said he had contacted Carl Warfield of HEW's Office of Civil Rights concerning a reply from the office on the acceptability of the plan. He said Warfield told him a letter from HEW concerning the plan had been mailed June 16. Warfield gave, Trice said, an unofficial report that the plan had been accepted.

Douglas' plan calls for the closing of Washington school as a junior high and its reopening as a sixth grade center for all sixth graders in the district with an enrollment of 615 students. The former Washington Junior High students and faculty will be assigned to Jefferson Avenue and College Hill junior highs.

In a plan previously accepted by HEW, the board decided to divide the district into two junior high attendance zones until the North Heights Junior High can be constructed.

The Carver Elementary School, according to Douglas plan, will be closed as an elementary school and be reserved for special activities. The 628 black students in grade one through five will be assigned to the remaining five elementary schools in the district. None of the five elementary schools will have a majority of black students.

Other students in grades one through five outside of the five attendance zones in the Carver District, will be placed in the elementary schools on a Freedom of Choice basis.

Henderson, in his letter acknowledging acceptance, stated, "It is further understood that all facets of the operation of the school system as outlined will be conducted on a racially nondiscriminatory, nonsegregated basis. This includes facilities, faculties, services, classes, activities, programs, and transportation, but is not limited thereto."

In a related subject, the board decided to request HEW officials attend a conference in Texarkana concerning the $75,000 "Follow-Up" program for the district. The program was originally designated for Carver School, but the closing of that facility changed the board's plans. HEW has asked for a meeting in Washington with a committee of two parents, a school board member, an administrative personnel, and a Model Cities representative.

According to school officials, the funds designated for Carver School, if HEW approves the plan for the "Follow Up Program", will be divided among the remaining five elementary schools. The program is designed to follow the progress of students who had attended pre-school programs through their first three grades of school.

In other action, the board approved a request by Dillon S. Anthony, representing the Tri-State Citizens Council, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Young Americans for Freedom, for use of Buhrman Field for a July 11 "Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter Appreciation Week" supper.

In granting permission, the board set a policy of requiring a $200 deposit against property damage while using the stadium, a $100 rental fee, and return of the field to the district in its condition when rented, meaning, the renting party will clean up the facility.

The chicken supper slated for the stadium July 11 was originally scheduled for Grim Stadium on the same night, but a policy adopted last week by the Texarkana, Tex., School District requires that a group renting the Grim Stadium to provide public liability insurance for personal injury with limits in the sum of $100,000-$300,000 and property damage in the sum of $10,000 with the Texarkana, Tex., Independent School District included as a named insured.

Sen. Douglas said he had been told by a representative of the groups seeking use of Buhrman Field that they "did not want to spend four or five hundred dollars for a one-night insurance policy." The groups then decided to seek use of Buhrman Field.

COURT RULES

12-Man Jury Not Required

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 12-man jury, traditional in criminal trials since the 14th century, is not required by the Constitution, the Supreme Court ruled 7-1 Monday.

Specifically approving Florida's six-member jury system, the court said the state may settle on any number of jurors as long as the "common-sense judgment of a group of laymen" stands between the accused and his accuser.

"The fact that the jury at common law was composed of precisely 12 is an historical accident, unnecessary to effect the purposes of the jury system and wholly without significance except to mystics," Justice Byron R. White said for the court.

In another major criminal-law decision, the court held 8 to 1 that indigent accused people have the right to a lawyer's assistance at preliminary hearings.

This is the point at which a magistrate decides whether there is sufficient evidence to give the case to a grand jury.

The ruling requires Alabama courts to reconsider the assault convictions of John Henry Coleman and Otis Stephens, two Birmingham men sentenced to 20 years in an attack on a motorist and his wife.

On a 5-3 vote the court established the rule that defendants charged with crimes that carry prison sentences of at least six months are entitled to be tried by a jury.

All the states and the federal government already follow the practice. The ruling directly affects only New York City.

The jury ruling overturns an 1898 ruling that the 12-man jury is required for federal criminal trials. White said Congress is as free now as the states to experiment.

Twelve-member juries have been traditional in this country as an outgrowth of common law. Still, some states have used different size panels since the Supreme Court did not make its decisions on jury rights binding on the states until 1968. Florida is one of 14 states that use juries of fewer than 12 members in criminal trials.

PUFFED OUT — Mike Hantzsch, 15, a member of the Ukrainian Scouts, snoozes on his trumpet during an open air mass at the CNE Bandshell in Toronto Sunday. Some 12,000 Ukrainians from Canada and the United States attended the mass and convention concerning the Ukrainian Catholic Church unification and the repression of Ukrainians in Poland. (AP Wirephoto)

PENN CENTRAL

Patman Orders Rail Probe

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Rep. Wright Patman, D-Tex., chairman of the House Banking Committee, ordered an investigation Monday into the involvement of 77 banks with the Penn Central Railroad, which declared bankruptcy after failing to get financial help from the government.

Patman said the banks, which lent millions of dollars to the nation's largest railroad, are deeply involved in the bankruptcy and that his investigation "might well prevent another Penn Central somewhere else in the economy." He ordered his committee staff to begin looking into the matter.

The Penn Central, hit by operating losses this year of an estimated $86 million and facing about $32 million in debt payments by the end of June, declared bankruptcy Sunday. It will continue to operate, but the bankruptcy action blocks creditors from collecting debts while the railroad reorganizes.

The Defense Department, under pressure from Patman and other congressmen, dropped plans last Friday to guarantee Penn Central a $200 million loan to help it out of its troubles.

The railroad had come to the government for help after private investors last month declined to buy a $100 million debenture, or unsecured bond issue, even at high interest rates.

The Defense Department's involvement was based on the fact railroads are used under contract to move troops and military supplies and that its continued operation was in the national interest.

But Patman and other congressmen persuaded the department to reverse itself.

PROFITABLE BUSINESS — Michael Campbell, 23-year-old son of a Portland policeman, has been doing brisk business in his "Pigs Are Beautiful" sweatshirts since he made one for his father. Campbell estimates he has mailed 1,000 of the shirts in the last two weeks, getting orders from throughout the country. His ad, which went to police departments, specifies such colors as wine red, panther black and stool pigeon yellow. Modeling the shirt is Barry Siegel, Portland. (AP Wirephoto)

OF 'OBSCENE' FILMS

Council Seeks Movies Ban

By LINDA RHODES
Staff Writer

A resolution urging movie operators to ban "obscene" movies was passed Monday night by Texarkana city councilmen.

Councilmen took the action after Rev. E. J. Kearney, pastor of Highland Park Baptist Church, urged the council to support the "hundreds and thousands of people who shocked and incensed by this invasion of indecency into community life."

Learcy specifically protested showing of "I Am Curious (Yellow)," which he said has not been officially booked in any local theaters but which he was told "is in the offing."

The council voted to "reaffirm its concern over the high influx of pornography and obscene materials in our movie houses, newsstands and in that which is merchandised within this city."

"...movie operators and other businesses involved with communications and news media" were asked to "refrain from distributing and showing movies and distributing and selling materials that are obscene or pronographic."

Copies of the resolution and a similar resolution passed by the board on March 23 will be mailed to movie house operators and "other concerns dealing with the communications media," according to the resolution.

City Attorney Leon Pesek said a stronger resolution could not be enforced by the city until a definition of "obscenity" is approved by the U. S. Supreme Court.

"In my opinion," Pesek said, "there is no sense in writing another ordinance that is unenforceable."

"If people of the community don't want the movies in show these films," Pesek said, "there is a good way to stop it. Don't go."

"The reason they are showing these shows and these movies in Texarkana and all over the country," he said, "is because the people are going."

Councilman George Dugan said the council and city staff have "undertaken an exhaustive study" and "we have run up against a Supreme Court brick wall."

In other business Monday, councilmen approved Phase I of

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SWADC BOARD MAKEUP TALKS PLANNED

City Officials, OEO Air VISTA Problems

Arkansas-side city officials aired their objections to VISTA volunteers Monday morning in a closed meeting with representatives from the state Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO).

Mayor J. N. Shoptaw and City Manager Paul Schriever met with State OEO Director William "Sonny" Walker, State OEO Program Specialist Katie S. Washington and Thomas Hudman, director of Southwest Arkansas Development Council (SWADC) which sponsors VISTA workers in this area. The public and press were barred from the meeting.

Walker said he called the meeting at the request of Arkansas Governor Winthrop Rockefeller to "clarify the position of the state office (OEO) as it related to VISTA volunteers."

He said the state agency's position is "is that VISTA presently assigned to SWADC are not the result of any newly-approved program, but were assigned here as part of a 29-man component approved to SWADC two years ago."

Walker said Gov. Rockefeller has taken "no subsequent action approving or disapproving the VISTA volunteer project in Texarkana."

Official City action was taken against VISTA workers on April 21 when Schriever sent a letter to Hudman demanding withdrawal of Vista volunteers from the city. Schriever said his action resulted from an anti-VISTA policy adopted by the city's board of directors.

"Any grievences or criticisms of the program should be addressed to the board of directors of SWADC," Walker said Monday, "who, as sponsor of the volunteer program, has full responsibility for direction and supervision of the volunteers."

Walker said a subsequent meeting will be set up to discuss restructuring of the SWADC board of directors to give city officials seats on the board.

Walker said city officials have "a legal right" to be members of the board but are not now serving in that capacity.

"They indicated to me a desire to serve on the board," Walker said. "Elected public officials usually get onto the board via the county judge."

"My own personal opinion is that the mayor of the city of Texarkana does have a valid, legitimate right to sit on that board," Walker said.

Hudman said the SWADC Miller County Board is made up fo 18 members; six elected from private organizations, six elected to represent the poor and six appointed by County Judge Rudy Burgess to represent the public sector.

"I'm sure that all Mr. Schriever or Mayor Shoptaw would have to do is tell Judge Burgess they want on the board," Hudman said. "The invitation is open, extended and always has been. In fact, we have a real difficult time getting board members."

Hudman said form letters are sent out once a year before elections to private, civic, religious and public groups asking them to submit a candidate for election to the board.

He said such a letter was sent to the city of Texarkana, but "the city of Texarkana did not respond."

"It is up to them to get in this organization as voting members," Hudman said.

After Monday morning's meeting, Schriever said the role of the state OEO agency in VISTA programs was "clarified to our satisfaction."

"For the first time," Schriever said, "we more nearly understand what the role of the city board of directors is and what it can be."

"I think there is a much clearer picture on the part of the local community action agency and the state OEO agency as to precisely what the board of directors' concerns are and the extent of the problem."

"We are not anxious to delve into details," Schriever said, "We do not think this would be proper."

"We think we have received very forthright responses from Mr. Walker, and I think the city's concerns are more specifically known," he said.

Walker said a meeting will be scheduled with regional OEO officials, state OEO officials, SWADC officials and Judge Burgess "at which time we will return to discuss board restructuring especially as it relates to the rights of elected city officials to serve on that board."